Water Plan Update 2013 Tribal Advisory Committee

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Message

- Protecting and restoring nature has financial benefits: avoids costs, saves money
- Protecting nature has more beneficiaries than many people realize
- Can reduce conflict between water management and ecosystem restoration

Target Audience Perspective

- Nature's benefits are free, worth nothing
- See only cost side of habitat projects
- Financial benefit not obvious



Nature's Services

- Update 2013- new topic
- Goods and services from Rivers and Floodplains
- \$\$ Value of nature's benefits

Project Scope

- Evaluate costs when nature doesn't provide what we want—and we have to buy it
- Represent nature's values in economic terms
- Narrow scope--impossible to put \$ value on all that nature provides

Technical Approach

- Engineered Facilities Replace Lost Goods and Services
- Cost of Facilities = Cost of NOT protecting nature
- Include Construction, Land, O&M, Debt Service

Not a complete valuation

- Not all Goods or Services
- Not all Aspects of each Service
- Not all Costs for Service
- Not Statewide—Only local examples

Nature's Goods and Services

- Fish
- Erosion control by floodplains
- Clean water
- Groundwater recharge
 - Later:
- Carbon storage by plants
- Subsidence reversal in Delta

Nature's way

- Fish
- Erosion control
- Clean water
- Groundwater recharge

Man-made way

- Hatcheries
- Riprap on levees
- Water treatment plants
- Recharge basins

Fish Hatcheries

7 hatcheries for salmon and steelhead

O&M = \$7.3 million/yr

Construction = \$10--\$30 million

Today's cost to build = up to \$210 million



Other Fish Culture

- Commercial—Tilapia, Catfish, Sturgeon
- Hard to get Private Sector Cost Data

Erosion control -- Riprap

- 835,000 feet of riprap—Sacramento River Basin
- About \$3,000 per foot—Today's price
- Worth \$2.6 Billion



Erosion control (cont.)

Concrete-lined stream channels

- Common in urban areas
- Searching for cost figures



Drinking-water treatment

Sacramento Plants

- 2 Plants
- Rehab \$157 M, plus \$10 M/year debt service

San Bruno Plant
Upgrade \$175 M



How you can Help

- Provide cost numbers
- Link us with people who have numbers
- Review the report
- Spread the word
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